

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 7 and 9-11 are pending in the application with entry of the current amendment. Claim 1 is amended to incorporate the subject matter of Claims 5 and 6, which are canceled herewith.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-7 and 9-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,126,393 ("Blum") in view of EP 0 159 117 B1 ("Hughes"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection in view of the amendments made to Claim 1.

Claim 1 of the present invention is directed to an aqueous coating composition prepared as a dispersion in which a urethane-modified polyol and a pyrazole-blocked polyisocyanate are mixed together prior to preparation of the aqueous dispersion. As amended, Claim 1 recites a specific combination of compounds and amounts that are used in preparation of the polyol component of the coating composition. Neither Blum nor Hughes, alone or in combination, discloses the amounts of components A1-A6 used in the preparation of the polyol. Accordingly, amended Claim 1 and the claims depending therefrom cannot be considered obvious in view of these references.

Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 1, and claims depending therefrom, Claims 2-4, 7 and 9-11 are patentable and respectfully request withdrawal of the §103 rejection.

Conclusion

As all outstanding issues have been addressed, Applicants submit that Claims 1-4, 7 and 9-11 are in condition for allowance; such action is respectfully requested at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,

By



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